

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A method for detecting the presence in a subject of a polymorphism linked to a gene associated with familial dysautonomia, said method comprising detecting a disruptive mutation in a gene of said subject encoding the I $\kappa$ B kinase-complex-associated protein, and, preferably, detecting a T  $\rightarrow$  C change in position 6 of the donor splice site of intron 20 and/or a G  $\rightarrow$  C transversion of nucleotide 2390 in exon 19 of the gene encoding the I $\kappa$ B kinase-complex-associated protein which is present on chromosome 9q31. Also disclosed are oligonucleotide primers useful in the detection method. This abstract is provided to comply with the rules requiring an abstract that will allow a searcher or other reader to ascertain quickly the subject matter of the technical disclosure. It is submitted with the understanding that it will not be used to interpret or limit the scope or meaning of the claims. 37 CFR § 1.72(b).